

# **Nationalism and State Building: lessons from South Korea**

**Samar M. Alabadla**

**Lecturer**

**(University of Palestine)**

**Moutaz Abu Ismail**

**Teacher**

**(Ministry of Higher Education)**

## ملخص

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى توضيح أهمية مفهوم الوطنية عند سكان كوريا الجنوبية ومدى تأثيرها على بناء الدولة الكورية إبان الحرب الكورية عام 1953 والتي أدت الى دمار شامل في البلاد آنذاك. والهدف وراء دراسة هذه التجربة هو

لذلك، قام الباحثان بتطبيق استبانة على عينة خريجي كوريا الجنوبية الذين يدرسون في الجامعة الكورية في كلية الدراسات الدولية وعددهم 334 ذكور واناث من أجل قياس مستوى قيم الوطنية لدى الكوريين وحبهم لوطنهم والذي ساعد في بناء دولة متقدمة مثل كوريا الجنوبية. فقد اتبع الباحثان الطريقة المندمجة والتي تجمع بين الطريقة الوصفية والكمية وذلك لتوصل لفهم اعمق للدراسة.

وقد توصل الباحثان ان درجة قيم الوطنية عالية عند الكوريين مما ساهم في بناء كوريا الجنوبية. حيث ان الوطن المتحد يكون قادر على تخطي كل المشاكل بأنواعها. وقد تم تدعيم قيم الوطنية وحب الوطن من خلال النظام التعليمي المتماسك القادر على تزويد الطلبة بالثقافة الكورية وتعزيز مبدأ الانتماء وحب الوطن وحب العمل والتفاني في سبيل الوطن. لقد لعب مفهوم الوطنية دورا كبيرا في استقرار البلد الذي بدوره جلب النمو الاقتصادي الذي يزدهر بوجود الاستقرار الكامل في بلد ديموقراطية حديثة تعمل من اجل الصالح العام بعيدا عن الحزبية والتشتت، على عكس ما فعله الانقسام الذي اضعف فلسطين في التمثيل الدولي واعطى الفرصة للمحتل الاسرائيلي للمراوغة والتسويق واستغلال الانقسام في التوسع الاستيطاني.

لذا أوصى الباحثان بأنه يجب على الفلسطينيين تعزيز مفهوم الوطنية لدى الطلاب في المدارس لكي ينشأ جيل يؤمن بالوحدة والتلاحم من أجل مصلحة الوطن وحده بعيدا عن الأحزاب والمصالح الخاصة. أيضا، لا بد من وجود ومساواة وعدل بين جميع فئات الشعب على قاعدة واحدة وذلك لتقوية وتعزيز مفهوم حب الوطن الذي يتيح فرص متساوية لجميع ابناء الشعب دون تمييز. وكذلك يجب استغلال الكره والمشاعر المناهضة للاحتلال باتجاه بناء المجتمع الفلسطيني الموحد وبناء الدولة الفلسطينية المتقدمة في جميع مناحي الحياة. ويأتي ذلك عن طريق ثقافة التعاون مع دول العالم وكسبهم في صالح القضية الفلسطينية ولتحقيق حلم الاستقلال. ومن المهم أيضا ان على الفلسطينيين معرفة ان اي نجاح اقتصادي هو ثمرة اعداد خطة معدة بشكل ممتاز تهدف الى التقدم الاقتصادي والمحافظة على مفهوم التنمية المستدامة. وأخيرا، أصبحت هناك تدخلات خارجية واقليمية في القضية الفلسطينية التي بدورها يمكن ان تحرف مسار القضية وتؤثر على المشروع الوطني الفلسطيني. وعليه، يجب تجنب القضية الفلسطينية اي تدخلات والتركيز على الوحدة الوطنية على اساس انها المخرج الوحيد.

## **Abstract**

This study aims to clarify the concept of nationalism among South Koreans and its effects on building their state after the Korea war in 1953 which comprehensively destroyed the country at that time. The aim beyond this study is to extract the benefit and the lessons for Palestine which suffers nearly the same from what Koreans had already suffered. Thus, the two researchers have applied a questionnaire on a sample male and female 334 of Korean graduates who study in the International Studies College, as an attempt to measure the level of nationalism and the love of the country which helped in building the developed country of Korea. The two researchers used the mixed method in order to reach the deep understanding of the study. They have found out that the degree of nationalism concept is high among Koreans , which helped in building South Korea. Nationalism concept and the love of the country have been supported in the integral educational system which is able to provide with all modern technologies along with teaching the Korean culture, love of the work and hardworking for the country's sake. Also, nationalism concept has played a big role in stabilizing the country which in turn has attracted the economic growth. This growth flourishes with full stability in a democratic country that works for the public away from parties and split. The division has weakened Palestine in the international representation and allowed the Israeli occupation to maneuver, delay taking advantage of it for settlement expansion.

The researchers recommend that the Palestinians should enhance the concept of nationalism in order to raise a generation who believe in unity and integrity for the sake of the country away from parties and private interests. Also, there must be equality and justice among all society's individuals so as to enhance the concept of the love of the country which allows opportunities all individuals without discrimination. Hatred and feelings against the occupation should be considered in building up the Palestinian society and the developed Palestinian

state in all aspects of life. This can come through enhancing the culture of cooperation among the community members and also with other countries to make them be in Palestine's side so as to achieve the dream of independence. Moreover, the Palestinians should know that any economic success comes from a well-prepared plan aims to economic development and preserves the concept of sustainability. Finally, external and regional interferences might deviate the track of the Palestinian cause and effect on the national project. Therefore, the Palestinian cause has to be away from any interferences and focus on the national unity as it is the only way out.

## **Nationalism and State Building: Lessons from South Korea**

### **Introduction**

Values of any particular constitute the main components of politics in the country. People are the determiners of any future policies especially in a modern democratic country. What makes any country connected and appears as one integral entity is the value of nationalism. It is a widespread ideological force in the modern world, supporting the nation building of newly-independent countries. It has different meanings. It is an ideology with great force that pushes toward building up a modern independent country.

Yet, it is with two different meanings. In this context, Miscevic (2010) argued that nationalism is comprised of two fundamental values: the attitude of the citizens of a nation in caring about their identity as citizens of that nation, and the actions taken by citizens in seeking to achieve or sustain some form of political sovereignty. In other words, nationalism is the factor or concept that obliges the citizen to care for his country and to achieve political independence.

Thus, "Korean nationalism is a natural reflection of Korea's strong sense of identity and history. It is also a reflection of the new pride that Koreans feel in the country's growing stature in the world. The search for a national identity has attracted considerable attention in contemporary Korea". (Global Security Organization, 2016). Koreans are very sensitive to this issue because South Korea was under the Japanese occupation which destroyed almost all of its heritage in terms of palaces and historical places. What Koreans are doing now is to rebuilding their own identity, even the modern, to establish a great and huge heritage for generations to come. Lee (1963) stated that "Japan, through its conquest and rule of Korea, caused the awakening and sustaining of Korean nationalism". This concept has been found in Korean because Japan was colonizing Korea for nearly (35) years with severe suppression. "Japanese

colonial rule over the Korea for about 35 years was seen as involving political suppression, economic exploitation, and cultural assimilation" (Choy, 1984). It is apparent in South Korea in all aspects of life; they introduce themselves in terms of clan. They were very proud that they were one nation and have a strong sense of nationalism, however, this sense started to fade out after the division between the two Koreas. Dhawan (2017) argued that "Koreans are also highly nationalist people. Nationalism emerged in Korea during the late 19th century with the penetration of foreign powers into the country and it has played a pivotal role in shaping the Korean nation. Koreans still have this sensation and very touchy in terms of occupation and the interference of other nations in their own policies.

It is true that South Korea has strong relations with U.S. The latter has a military base in the former as they are considered long-lasting alliance, yet anti-Americans feeling is still there in the country. A lot of people do not like the idea of having thousands of American soldiers as they believe that there is no use of having them. Indeed, there are some political movements on this issue even they are not that popular. Wilson Center (2007) stated by Robert Hathaway, director of the Wilson Center's Asia program "the growth of anti-American sentiment in both Japan and South Korea must be seen not simply as a response to American policies and actions, but as reflective of deeper domestic trends and developments within these Asian countries". It is the intrinsic feeling of nationalism that demands people to deal with any foreign forces as something strange and unacceptable.

## **Literature Review**

Since nationalism is defined as a good motivator for human being and as a bond that connects people together as one integral entity, many researchers have tried their best to define the concept of nationalism as they were trying to find the

best prosperity and engine of economy. Nationalism helped a lot to move the wheel of development toward success and advancement. Jing Yin (2013) argued that regarding South Korea "The second benefit of nationalism is that it boosts economic development. Nationalistic fervor helped in the economic growth of the 1960s". The reason why some nations fail to achieve development and others though they might have the same nationality, the same race, the religion and even the same geography is the willingness of people to get developed. In this regard, it is important to mention that South Korean community consists of mainly one race. This means that the danger of racial diversity is very unthreatening. In other words, Shin (2006) stated that "the South Korean community is mostly hegemonic".

Moreover, education is the key for South Korea to prepare a competitive highly-skilled labor force and a strategy of protecting all economic sectors from outside competition until they become global competitors explains their success. Patriotism controls all Koreans to work hard in the field of education in order to develop sectors in their government. According to U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), "the country had the advantage of possessing a strong human capacity base that had been built before the war, as well as a culture that valued hard work and perseverance" (para. 2).

Education is the engine through which South Korea relied on the shoulders of all Koreans alike so as to build a very connected developed country. Koreans are working collaboratively as a network where all should work in order to get a better outcome. Chulchung (2015) argued that "Instead of relying on funding through FDI, the government itself took on large foreign loans and allocated them to strategic industries, which in turn led to a massive influx of foreign capital goods and turnkey plants". Chulchung asserted again that "Private industries acquired the necessary technologies by reverse engineering the imported machines, or through technical training as part of turnkey projects". It

is, of course, a modern community and liberal one but still cannot compete alone internationally specially compared with other successful and developed countries. In addition, there is a great number of Koreans who work abroad and most of them are going back to their countries with great deal of remedies pouring into the Korean economy. This, for sure, uplifted the real sole power of the Korean economy.

Many scholars have done many researches in order to make a plausible definition for the concept of nationalism. Many scholars have different definitions for the concept of nationalism and in relation to the cultural backgrounds and beliefs. Smith (1991) argued "named human population sharing a historic territory, common myths, and historical memories, a mass public culture, a common economy and common legal rights and duties for all members" . In this definition, for example, some key words are included to be part of the definition like culture, economy and rights. It is apparent that the sense of nationalism is derived from things that are common among the nation's population; one culture, one aim. All members of this nation work cooperatively for one reason: their own identity.

In this regard, Ignatieff (1993) argues that "nationalism as a notion combines the political idea of territorial self-determination, the cultural idea of the nation as one's primary identity, and a moral idea of justification of action to protect the rights of the nation against the other". Again, some of the above-mentioned terms are used to discover the meaning of the concept of nationalism, but with adding the word identity. Moreover, the word "protect" should be highlighted as it is a main goal for one united nation. The member of a nation should work together in order to protect their rights against any other intruders and external powers.

Gellner (1983) defines nationalism as "a principle which holds that the political and national unit should be congruent". This is considered as a small



development for the term. The word congruent here means consistent in their ideas and thoughts. In other words, they have to have common thoughts and objectives that serve the nation as a whole. On the other hand, Haas (1986) points out that "a belief held by a group of people that they ought to constitute a nation, or that they already are one". In Korea, the concept of nationalism headed to the development of the country and successfully managed to gather all Koreans under one thought, the love of the nation.

South Korea was suffering from a dangerous political division with its opposites, North Korea. Also, there was a sensitivity from its neighbor, Japan, the former occupier. Economically speaking, South Korea suffered a lot from a famine and a great demolition in the infrastructure of the country after the war, so it was receiving financial aid from all over the world. Despite of all these difficulties, South Korea succeeded in developing itself and got rid of its political and economic problems with all possible means. In terms of Palestine, there are many similarities between the two, South Korea and Palestine. The Palestinians suffer these days from a political division, demolition in infrastructure, huge economic problems and the inability to control the financial aid, it was in South Korea.

### **Research Problem**

This study examines the concept of nationalism and how it is related to building up South Korea as a great developed country that achieved its development within nearly 30 years. This study is based on a questionnaire that was distributed to a sample of 150 Korean citizens who have higher education; masters and PhD degrees. The social class was also taken into consideration in order to represent the whole society.

## **Study Significance**

This study is important because of the current political situation and the political rift between the two main parties in Palestine: Fateh and Hamas. Third, the impeachment of the last Korean president, Park Geun-hye, in 2016 and going for new elections; what-so-called the smooth political transformation, is a good example for political reformations. Democracy and elections constitute a serious problem for any future solution for the Palestinian unity. Therefore, the Korean democratic model is a crucial and significant one from which lessons needed for the case of Palestine can be gained.

## **Questions of the Study**

What is the level of nationalism in South Korean community?

- 1- Are there statistically significant differences at the level of nationalism by variables (home, number of family members and income level)?
- 2- Are there statistically significant differences at the level of significance at the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the variables (marital status)?
- 3- Is there any significant difference in the level of nationalism among graduates from scholastic year 2017?
- 4- Are there any differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the Income Average variable?
- 5- Are there any differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the "Did you join the military conscription?" variable
- 6- are there any differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the "Place of Residence" variable?

## **Research limitations**

The most updated information is inadequate and rare in terms of giving the accurate statistics for the recent years. There is a small number of reliable academic institutions that produce accurate information and data which can be

used for academic purposes. Literature on this topic is significantly scarce since the topic is new and not discussed in details before. Thus, the researchers have to do a ground survey about the topic and conduct some interviews with university professor and some students.

## **Methodology**

This is a mixed method approach research that is based on quantitative and qualitative data. It is based mainly on primary research resources (books and articles) and also on secondary ones (internet, websites and reports). The researcher is conducting this research using the already-published data and materials which can be found and accessed. That is why it is necessary to select the academically reliable ones so as to be utilized in this research. One of the problems though is that some of the publications this topic do not hit on the same topic since the concept of nationalism which means that data are rare. The concept is just a sense among people but not clearly defined in literature and academic papers. Yet, going through the already done research is a must in order to avoid the repeated research topics and to use it as basis for bringing up new ideas for potential solutions. Also, the researcher conducted a questionnaire so as to gather more information from the public.

## **Study Measures**

In order to achieve the study objectives, the two researchers used the mixed method so as to give a precise result. The questionnaire is used also so as to give a representation to Koreans and their opinions since the topic is about nationalism. It is considered as a sense which has to be tested through people.

### Study Population:

The population of this study consists of all Korean graduates from Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS), Korea University students, males and females, who registered for the second semester 2016/2017.

### Study Sample:

#### The pilot Study:

It contains (30) graduates chosen randomly to modify the study tool and to check its validity and reliability. After the checking intactness and the validity of the questionnaire, it has been distributed.

**1- The actual study sample:** the actual sample is formed from ( 334 ) participants the table (1) shows this.

**Table (1)**  
**Distribution of the sample of the study**

Material Status		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Single	146	43.7	43.7	43.7
	Married	146	43.7	43.7	87.4
	Divorced	42	12.6	12.6	100.0
	Total	334	100.0	100.0	

  

Sex		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	178	53.3	53.3	53.3
	Female	156	46.7	46.7	100.0
	Total	334	100.0	100.0	

<b>Scholastic year 2017</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	First	147	44.0	44.0	44.0
	Second	187	56.0	56.0	100.0
	Total	334	100.0	100.0	

<b>Did you join the military conscription</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	Yes	190	56.9	56.9	56.9
	No	144	43.1	43.1	100.0
	Total	334	100.0	100.0	

<b>Place of residence</b>		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>	<b>Cumulative Percent</b>
Valid	Seoul	132	39.5	39.5	39.5
	Busan	114	34.1	34.1	73.7
	Ulsan	29	8.7	8.7	82.3
	Gwanju	59	17.7	17.7	100.0
	Total	334	100.0	100.0	

Income average		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	less than 2000 krw	248	74.3	74.3	74.3
	(3000 – 4000) krw	86	25.7	25.7	100.0
	Total	334	100.0	100.0	

### Study Tool:

**The Questionnaire:** After going through the previous literature, and in the light of investigating a sample of opinions for some specialists through conducting interviews, the two researchers have designed the research tool as follows.

Part One: It is about information about the respondents (income average ,Place of residence ,military conscription, Scholastic year 2017, marital, status, sex)

Part two: It is about the domains of the questionnaire.

After the final amendments of the items, the questionnaire consisted of 22 items each of which was given gradual weight according to a five-point Likert Scale.

**Questionnaire validity:** it has been confirmed from the questionnaire items validity by two ways:

**1- Referees Validity:** the questionnaire was given in its initial form to some Korean university specialist professors who, in turn, gave their opinions and notes about the items and their linguistic formation. They all agreed on omitting the item from the questionnaire concluding it to (19) items.

**2-Internal consistency:** the internal consistency of the questionnaire has been tested by applying it on a pilot sample, and person correlation factor has been counted among the paragraph's items and the total grade for the questionnaire.

The correlation of the items is between (.540) and (0.891) which is a statistical coefficient ( 0.01 ) and (0.05). This confirms that the questionnaire is highly consistent. Table (2) shows the internal consistent for the questionnaire items:

**Table (2)**  
**the internal consistency of the Questionnaire items**

<b>Paragraph</b>	<b>Correlations</b>
1. I would fight and die for my country.	.891**
2. The interests of my country come before that of all other nations, including those that are in desperate need.	.933**
3. I am proud to be a Korean.	.540**
4. I have a strong sense of belonging to my country.	.540**
5. South Korea is the best country in the world to live.	.829**
6. National interests are more important than international interests.	.635**
7. If you don't love your country you should leave it – "Love it or leave it."	.583**
8. Global issues are less important than national issues.	.589**
9. The bond to my nation is more powerful than my bond to my family.	.739**
10. The bond to my nation is more powerful than my bond to my religion or faith.	.814**
11. I will pay more for a product because it was made in South Korea.	.820**
12. I feel proud of fellow Koreans who do great things and embarrassed when fellow Koreans do disgraceful things.	.636**
13. I go out of my way to shop at Korean stores instead of shopping at foreign owned businesses.	.739**
14. I have a national flag prominently displayed in my home.	.820**
15. I buy the Korean product more than any other brands	.699**

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18. I have a danger in having no sense of nationalism.	.739**
19. Whether I have high income or low income I still love my country	.879**
21. I hate my country and I want to leave it	.665**
22. Nationalism helped in the Korean development	.573**

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3- **Split-half:** the pilot level has been used to count the questionnaire by using the split-half method in which the paragraph is split in two parts. The results of the odd items was (0.958) degree, and the even items was (0.633) degree. Then, the correlation factor was  $(r) = 0.973$ . Correcting the correlation factor with Person Brown, and it was 0.986. This means that the questionnaire is highly reliable which gives confidence to the researchers to apply it.

### **Reliability:**

The researchers have done steps of assuring reliability of the questionnaire after applying it to the pilot sample by two ways; split-half and Cronbach Alpha Coefficient.

1- Cronbach Alpha Coefficient: The researchers used this way to find the reliability factor and they found the total reliable factor (0.974) after the omission of the items. This means the questionnaire is highly reliable.

2- Normal distribution for the measure: the researchers counted the equation Shapiro-Wilk to check the results. They are as follow in table (3):

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Table (3)			
Shapiro-Wilk for Normal Distribution for Data			
Statistic	Df	Total value	Conclusion
0.781	30	200	significant

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According to the previous table, the probable values for the measure are bigger than (0.05) Which follow the normal distribution. Accordingly, parametric tests were used.

### **Statistic methods used in the study:**

The following statistical processes are used to confirm the validity and reliability of the study tool:

A- Person Correlation Coefficient: Confirming from the internal consistency of the questionnaire through Person correlation coefficient for each column and the total degree.

B- Spearman Correlation Coefficient, Brown for the split-half, Gutman correlation and Cronbach Alpha coefficient for confirming the questionnaire reliability.

The following statistics have been processed to analyze the results of the questionnaire:

- Frequencies and percentages for the mean and the standard deviation
- Mann-Whitney Test to find the differences that have statistical significant among means of two independent samples. The test was used to confirm the assumption of (sex and dwelling)
- Analyzing of variance One Way Anova

### **Study Results and its interpretation:**

It reviews the study result through answering the questions and showing the highlighted results of the questionnaire. The results were achieved through analyzing its items.

- To determine the study's test, the length of the data in the five-dimensional scale was determined by calculating the range between the degrees of the scale ( $5-1 = 4$ ) and then dividing it by the largest value in the scale to obtain cell length ( $4/5$ )

= 0.80) . After that, this value was added to the lowest value in the scale (the beginning of the scale and the correct one) to determine the upper limit of this cell, thus the cell length became as shown in the following table (Melhem, 2000: 42):

**Table (4)**  
**the test in the study**

<b>Cell Length</b>	<b>Relative Weight</b>	<b>Degree of Relevance</b>
From 1.80 – 1	From %36- %20	Very few
More than 2.60 - 1.80	More than %52 - %36	few
More than 3.40 – 2.60	More than %68 - %52	average
More than 4.20 – 3.40	More than %84 - %68	Big
More than 5 - 4.20	More than %100- %84	Very big

- To answer the first question of the study: "What is the level of nationalism in South Korea?" To verify this, researchers used the arithmetic mean, the standard deviation.

Table (4) shows the means and standard deviations of the reality of the level of nationalism of Koreans in Seoul, Busan, Ulsan and Gwanju area, South Korea.

**Table (5)**  
**averages, standard deviations, and resolution of the resolution paragraphs**

<b>Paragraph</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>	<b>Relative weight</b>	<b>Rank</b>
1. I would fight and die for my country.	4.3473	.63839	86.946	6
2. The interests of my country come before that of all other nations, including those that are in desperate need.	4.1677	1.10501	83.354	10
3. I am proud to be Korean.	4.3473	.63839	86.946	6
4. I have a strong sense of belonging to my country.	4.3473	.63839	86.946	6
5. South Korea is the best country in the world to live.	4.3443	1.14347	86.886	7

6. National interests are more important than international interests.	4.3353	1.14221	86.706	8
7. If you don't love your country you should leave it – "Love it or leave it."	2.2126	.72681	44.252	17
8. Global issues are less important than national issues.	3.5569	.98093	71.138	17
9. The bond to my nation is more powerful than my bond to my family.	2.9102	.66510	58.204	16
10. The bond to my nation is more powerful than my bond to my religion or faith.	3.7305	.85906	74.61	13
11. I will pay more for a product because it was made in South Korea.	4.4641	1.15349	89.282	5
12. I feel proud of fellow Koreans who do great things and embarrassed when fellow Koreans do disgraceful things.	4.6437	.64048	92.874	2
13. I go out of my way to shop at Korean stores instead of shopping at foreign owned businesses.	3.5599	.88752	71.198	14
14. I have a national flag prominently displayed in my home.	4.6407	1.14541	92.814	3
15. I buy the Korean product more than any other brands	3.9880	1.03389	79.76	11
16. I have a danger in having no sense of nation.	4.5090	.87589	90.18	4
17. Whether I have high income or low income I still love my country	3.9102	.28635	78.204	12
18. I hate my country and I want to leave it	1.7305	.84496	34.61	18
19. Nationalism helped in the Korean development	5.0000	.00000	100	1
<b>Total Grade</b>	<b>4.6737</b>	<b>.31920</b>	<b>93.474</b>	

Table (5) shows that the top two items were: Item (19), which stated that "Nationalism helped in the Korean development." I ranked first with a relative weight of 100%.

And paragraph (12), which stated that " I feel proud of fellow Koreans who do great things and embarrassed when fellow Koreans do disgraceful things." It ranked second with a relative weight of (92.874%) and to a large extent, and the researchers attributed to:

As shown in Table (5), the lowest two items were: item (7), which stipulates that " If you don't love your country you should leave it – "Love it or leave it." ranked second to last with a relative weight of (44.252 %) and to a medium degree, and attributed the researchers to:

And items (18), which stated that " I hate my country and I want to leave it my work", and ranked last with a relative weight of (34.61%) and to an average degree, and attributed the researchers to:

To answer the second question of the study: "Are there statistically significant differences at the level of significance ( $\alpha$  0.05) in the level of the nationalism in South Korea according to the variables (sex, home)? Mann, Whitney Test.

**Table (6)**  
**The differences in the level of level of nationalism by sex variable**

sex	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t	Sig.	Meaning
Male	178	4.6657	.37478	-.484	.000	Statistic Sig.
Female	156	4.6827	.24154			

Table (6) shows that there are statistically significant differences in the level of nationalism due to the gender variable. The social summit (0.000) is a function at the level of significance (0.01), and the data indicate that there are adverse differences. The value of z (4.935) The differences in favor of females have an average grade of (146.76), which is higher than males. The males have an average grade of 102.60, and there are no significant differences according to the household variable.

To answer the third question of the study: "Are there statistically significant differences at the level of significance of 0.05 ( $\alpha$   $\alpha$ ) in the level of sense of

nationalism in by variables (home, number of family members)? The level of nationalism by variable (income level, number of family members) .The researchers used a correlation coefficient (Kruskal-Wallis Test) as shown in Table 7:

**Table (7)**  
**The differences in the level of nationalism according to variable**  
**(material status)**

<b>ANOVA</b>					
	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	1.462	2	.731	7.455	.001
Within Groups	32.466	331	.098		
Total	33.928	333			

Table (7) shows that there are statistically significant differences at the level of (0.01) in the level of nationalism due to material status. The previous table indicates that there are significant differences in the level of nationalism due to (marital status).

The researchers used Scheffe as table (8) shows:

<b>(I)</b>	<b>(J)</b>	<b>Mean Difference (I-J)</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Single	Married	-.01370	.933
	Divorced	.19178*	.002
Married	Single	.01370	.933
	Divorced	.20548*	.001
Divorced	Single	-.19178*	.002
	Married	-.20548*	.001

Table (8) shows that the direction of differences between Single and Divorced is in favor of Single, and there is a difference in Married and Divorced in favor of Married. There are no other differences. The researchers refer this to:

To answer the third question of the study which states "is there any significant difference in scholastic year 2017? The researchers used (T-Test) to know the differences gender.

Table (9) shows the differences in the level of nationalism among students in scholastic year 2017:

**Table (9)**  
**the differences in the level of nationalism among students in scholastic year 2017**

sex	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t	Sig.	Meaning
Male	147	4.7959	.40441	-.497	.000	Statistical Sig.
Female	187	4.5775	.18148			

What is shown in table (9) the probability value (.000) is a value at (0.01) is in favor of females which means: females have a higher level of nationalism than males.

To answer the forth question of the study questions: which states (are there any differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the Income Average variable?"

The researchers used (T-Test) as shown in table (10):

Income average	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t	Sig.	Meaning
less than 2000 krw	248	4.6190	.32594	-5.552	.011	Statistical Sig.
3000 - 4000 krw	86	4.8314	.23776			

What is shown in table (10) the probability value (0.011) is at the level of nationalism (0.05) is in favor of females.

To answer the fifth question of the study questions: which states (are there any differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the "Did you join the military conscription?" variable)

Table (11) shows the differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the Did you join the military conscription variable.

**Table (11)**  
**the differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea**

<b>military conscription</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>Sig.</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Yes	190	4.5763	.33447	-7.115	.172	insignifica nt
No	144	4.8021	.24537			

Table (11) shows that the probability value is insignificant and researcher refer it to Korean law which states that females do not join the military conscription.

To answer the sixth question of the study questions: which states (are there any differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the "**Place of Residence**" variable)

Table (12) shows the differences in the level of nationalism in South Korea according to the Place of Residence variable.

	<b>Sum of Squares</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>Mean Square</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig.</b>
Between Groups	2.321	3	.774	8.079	.000
Within Groups	31.607	330	.096		
Total	33.928	333			

Table (12) shows the probability (0.000) is significant at (0.01) in order to know the differences. Thus, the researchers used Scheffe as table (13) shows:

(I) Place	(J) Place	Mean Difference (I-J)	Std. Error	Sig.
Seoul	Busan	-.13636*	.03957	.009
	Ulsan	.11364	.06347	.363
	Gwanju	-.13213	.04847	.061
Busan	Seoul	.13636*	.03957	.009
	Ulsan	.25000*	.06437	.002
	Gwanju	.00424	.04963	1.000
Ulsan	Seoul	-.11364	.06347	.363
	Busan	-.25000*	.06437	.002
	Gwanju	-.24576*	.07019	.007
Gwanju	Seoul	.13213	.04847	.061
	Busan	-.00424	.04963	1.000
	Ulsan	.24576*	.07019	.007

As shown in table (13) that the differences between Seoul and Busan is in favor of Seoul. Also, there is a difference between Busan, Seoul and Ulsan is in favor of Seoul, and there are no other differences. The researchers refer this to the historical importance of Seoul as it is regarded geographically as the first line of defense against North Korea.

From what has been reviewed it is clear that the Koreans have a great sense of nationalism and this concept has played a major role in building up their own country. If this experiment is compared to Palestine, there will be some differences that can be overcome by following the Korean model of development.

As a matter of fact, Palestine, mainly West Bank and Gaza strip, had a real hard time. West Bank was re-occupied by Israel in 2001 and since then there is a serious and apparent isolation between the two parts of Palestine. Gaza, on the other hand, witnessed an overtake done by Hamas after great clashes and battles between Fateh and Hamas ended up with Hamas taking control all of the



Palestinian Authority military sites and other offices and eventually to the dissolution of the government at that time. Nashwan (2017) argued that "In 2007, Hamas took control over the Gaza Strip by force of arms, precipitating dysfunction of the Palestinian Legislative Council and dissolution of the government headed by Ismail Haniyyeh". Such an action led to a new dark age in the history of Palestine; the political rift. The root of the clash goes back when Hamas won the election in 2006. This led into a complete cease of all international aid to the Palestinians as the international institutions along with super powers do not recognize Hamas a good partner for peace, as they believe. It is because Hamas refused to recognize the term nonviolence resistance and to give up its own weapons. Hence, the division between Hamas and Fateh has started. Cavatorta and Elegie (2009) argued that "The semi-constitutional and semi-presidential Basic Law gave President and Government a shared political power". Fateh did not accept, or could choose between the world and Hamas. Thus, Viken (2008) argued that "The Hamas-dominated Palestinian Authority and the parliament on the other hand were boycotted, and international financial aid was rendered via Abbas, bypassing the Palestinian Government". Because Fatah and Hamas did not co-operate, the parliament became dysfunctional and the PA suffered financial distress.

Since back then, Gaza strip is under severe blockade by Israel which makes Gaza in a great shortage in single aspects of life and in commodities for the Palestinians who live in Gaza strip. Not only Israel is the only the reason for the political stage to deteriorate but also the two main parties Hamas and Fateh have a major rule too, unfortunately. Both of them, indeed, do not have a real good intention to form a government of unity to work as an umbrella to all Palestinian parties so as to be an integral body representing all layers of the society. The concept on nationalism is absent and needs to be redefined so as to bring the main target on the stage; the liberation of Palestine.

South Korea is selected here because there are many things in common between the two communities. First, both are small in terms of land and suffer from a similar political rift between the North and South Koreans. Moreover, both in the North and South Korea, both societies have only one race similar to the case in Palestine which should be a good bond to rely on for building up a successful state.

Second, South Korea was under the Japanese occupation and their nation had suffered a lot from that stage witnessing atrocities and massacres all over that period of history. Palestine is still under the Israeli occupation and is striving so as to find its way to liberation. This is a reasonable rationale of why such a comparison between the two country is a good field to study and investigate.

Whereas Palestine, regarding the concept of nationalism, they had the beginning an overlapping identity rooted to many references like Ottoman empire, to Arabs in general, Islam and loyalty to some regions and villages. In this regard, Provenance (2005) argued that the Arab population of British Mandatory Palestine as having "overlapping identities, "with some or many expressing loyalties to villages, regions, a projected nation of Palestine, an alternative of inclusion in a Greater Syria, an Arab national project, as well as to Islam" (158). Khalidi (1997) writes that "local patriotism could not yet be described as nation-state nationalism." (32). Unfortunately, the concept of nationalism for Palestinians was still under the umbrella of Arabs as they are considered the savior of the Palestinian cause. Kuttub argued "because Palestinians looked to the Arab world for their salvation, Arab nationalism was still stronger amongst Palestinians than a more localized Palestinian form of nationalism".

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

From the above-reviewed data and literature, it is found that nationalism is a great motivator in the Korean culture and has played a good role in changing the

economy of the country positively. The statistics provided above showed how much Koreans promote the idea of nationalism although the country is open and liberal. They keep educating their citizens about the importance of unity to the good of the whole country. They teach these concepts along with maintaining equality and justice to all Korean citizens under the umbrella of law. There is no distinction among them, they are all alike. In this regard, Palestinians should follow the same track on the way of promoting nationalism if they want to change their internal social structure on the way to change the political dilemma. Such a dilemma is originally very old and needs a great effort to change through education some norms.

Moreover, the occupation of Palestine can, indeed, play a reflective role and in a positive way by using the strong feelings of the Palestinian hatred towards building up a big nation, not being fragmented and split. The culture of cooperation and assistance as being one integral body is the only exist for the Palestinians as the two parties should work cooperatively. Palestinians should work hard to reunite themselves to face the occupation since unification is the only way out for this political division.

Moreover, Koreans have absorbed their own wounds and turned them into a giant economic power through building huge companies like Samsung and Hyundai as unbelievably big companies that can strive in the international market. South Korea after the Korean war suffered from a famine in which people did not have anything to eat. It was an aid receiving country, but through their unity and hard work they managed to changed Korea into a donor. Although United States was the great supporter for South Korea, Koreans decided by their own to get developed and to choose their own model of development. It is the nature of Korean nationals to work hard and adapt new ideas. Such abilities come from only one idea is the love of the country and how they dream to see it prosper.

From the South Korean legacy of development, Palestine should take into consideration that state building comes from a great economic plan and highly-skilled professional who take the lead in the government. The Palestinian government, or governments, should realize that unity, building capacity and the culture of cooperation are the key points in any economic development plan. On the top of that, Palestinians, including Hamas and Fateh, should know that the political rift is a potential threat to the Palestinian cause. It will eventually put an end to the national project; the liberation of Palestine. Indeed, such a rift, which is against the concept of nationalism, benefits Israel and United States as it gives them the excuses to get away from their prior peace agreements. The rift also nullifies the international decisions because they deal the Palestine as one integral political body. Moreover, the Israeli occupation has taken the chance of this rift to expand its own settlements and stabilizing the what-so-called Jewish State. Finally, the Palestinian cause, unfortunately, has become in the middle of external interferences internationally represented by United States and regionally from neighboring countries.

Thus, the researcher recommend to promote the concept of nationalism and its importance to the economic development of the country. This concept is essential to overcome all the difficulties that any country might face. The Palestinian political scene is in a real need to education the citizen about the unity of the country so as to strive against the occupation. Moreover, Palestine should learn how to balance its relations in a way to serve its national interests instead of directing it to the deepening the rift.

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